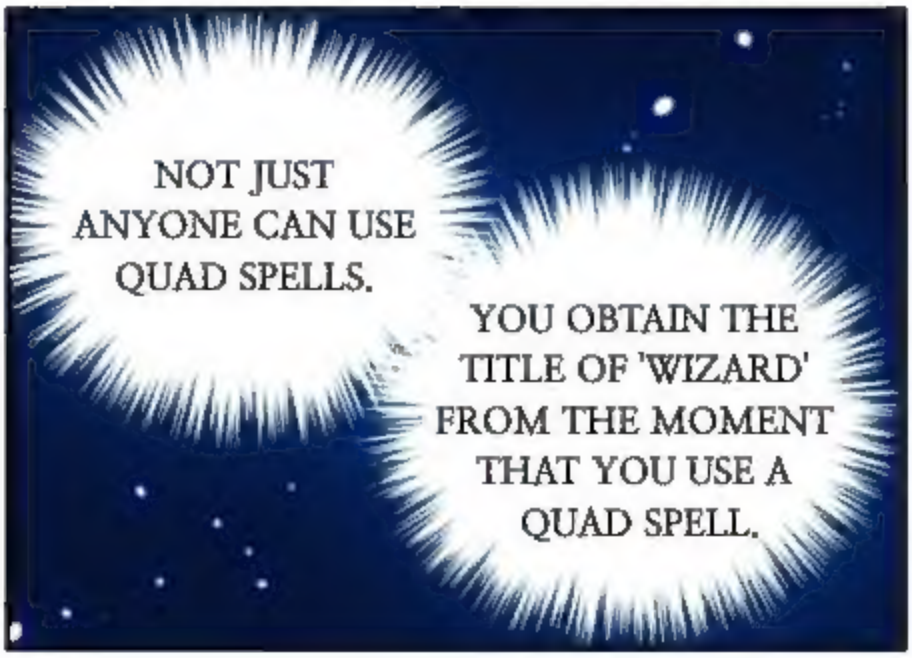
THE GAMER

STORY BY SANGYOUNG SEONG
ILLUST BY SANG-A

BZZ ZZT
PLUS, THIS HAS A HOMING FEATURE AND IT CAN ATTACK SEVERAL TARGETS AT ONCE.

HEHE. VERY GOOD.
BZZT
BZZT
A QUAD SPELL?

BA HA HA HA
THIS IS A SPELL THAT YOU HAVE TO COMBINE FOUR TYPES OF SPELLS IN ORDER TO USE!


NOT JUST ANYONE CAN USE QUAD SPELLS.
YOU OBTAIN THE TITLE OF 'WIZARD' FROM THE MOMENT THAT YOU USE A QUAD SPELL.

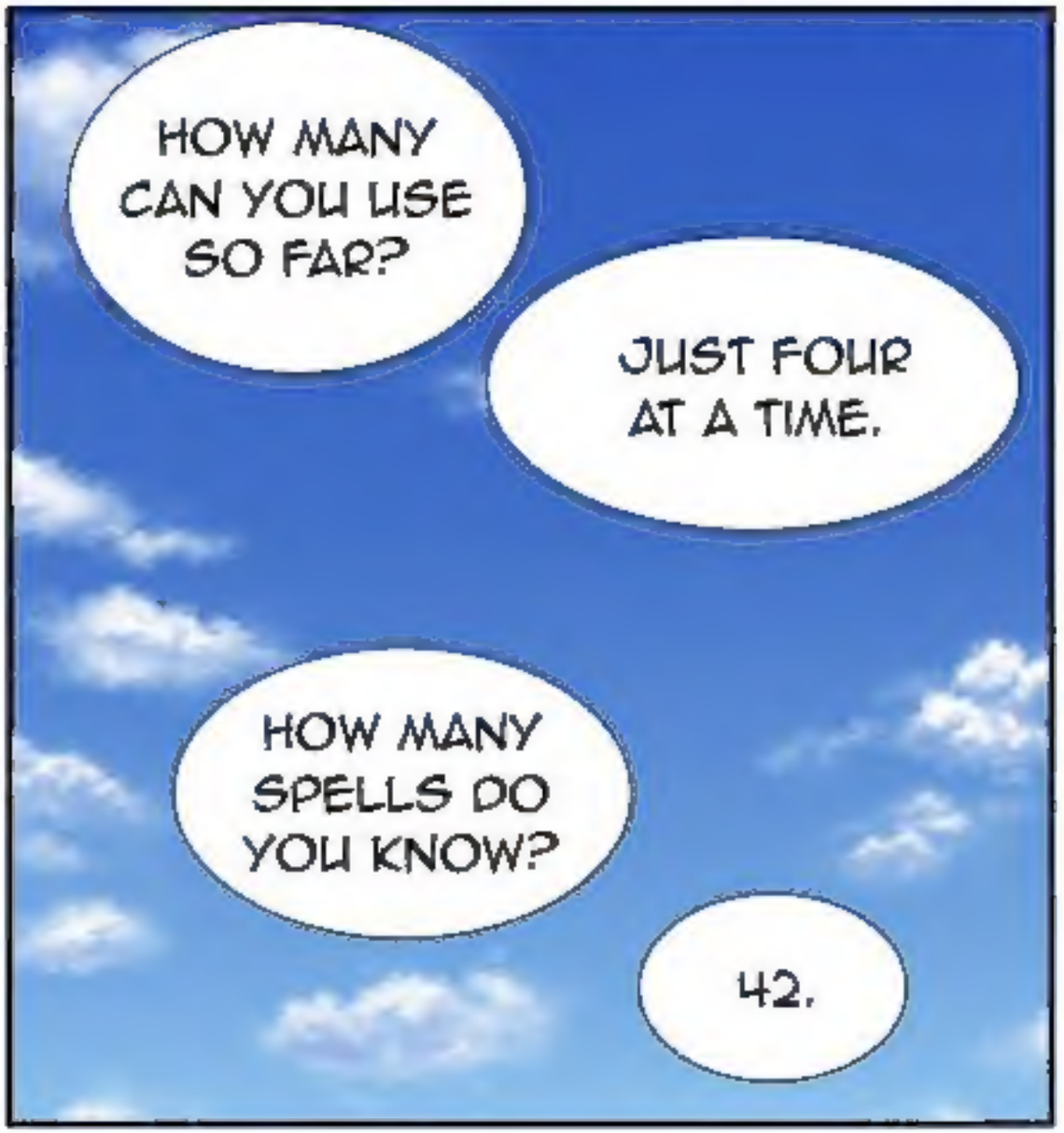
AHAHA
CLAP CLAP
CLAP

USING QUAD SPELLS NOW? IT'S UNEXPECTED.
IT MEANS YOU REALLY ARE A WIZARD NOW.
CLAP CLAP

HMM, VERY SURPRISING.

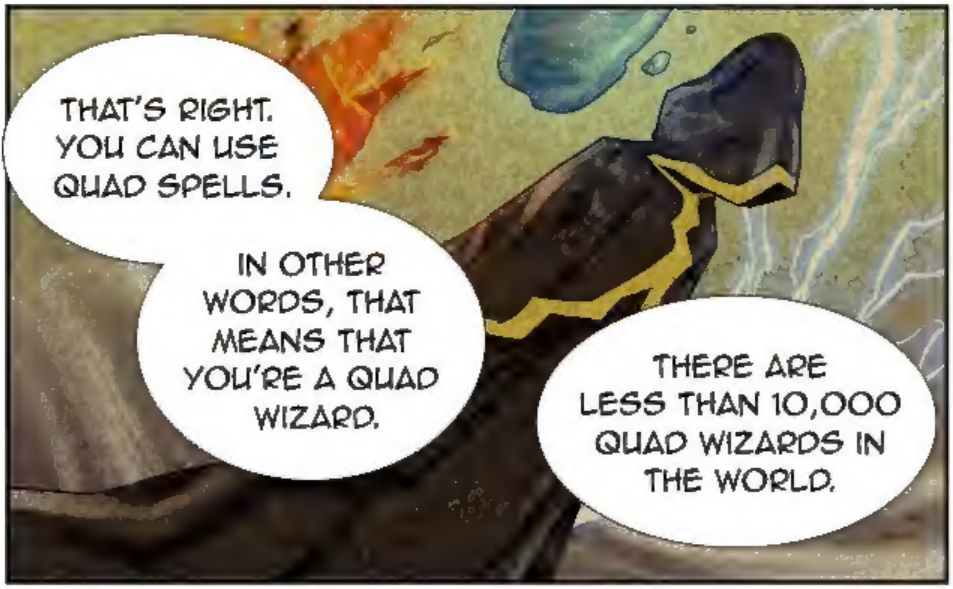
HAHAHA.
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
I'VE GROWN A LOT, HAVEN'T I?

IT SEEMS LIKE IT.
USING QUAD SPELLS AFTER JUST THREE MONTHS.

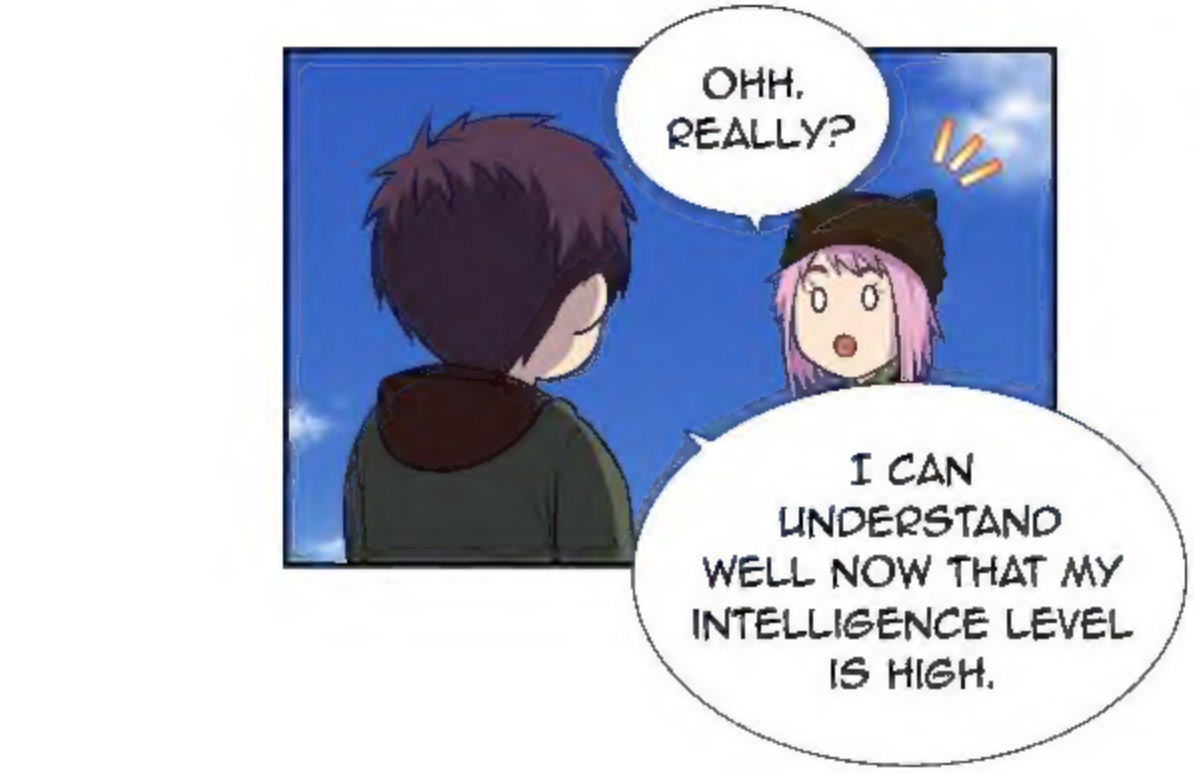

HOW MANY CAN YOU USE SO FAR?
JUST FOUR AT A TIME.
HOW MANY SPELLS DO YOU KNOW?
42.

VERY GOOD.
YOU PASS!
AT THIS LEVEL,
YOU CAN GO AROUND
TELLING ANYONE
THAT YOU'RE
MY STUDENT.

I KNOW,
RIGHT?


THAT'S RIGHT. YOU CAN USE QUAD SPELLS.
IN OTHER WORDS, THAT MEANS THAT YOU'RE A QUAD WIZARD.
THERE ARE LESS THAN 10,000 QUAD WIZARDS IN THE WORLD.

AH, OF COURSE, IT'S EASY FOR YOU, RIGHT, JIHAN?
SINCE IT'S PART OF YOUR POWER AS THE GAMER.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?!
I EVEN STUDIED THE THEORY PROPERLY!


OHH, REALLY?
I CAN UNDERSTAND WELL NOW THAT MY INTELLIGENCE LEVEL IS HIGH.

HMM... THAT'S SO UNFAIR.
YOU WERE PRACTICALLY BORN WITH A SILVER, NO, A DIAMOND SPOON IN YOUR MOUTH.
UGH, THIS IS UNJUST.

GRIN
SHIVER

WELL, FINE.
THEN SHALL WE DO SOME WORK NOW?

WHAT?

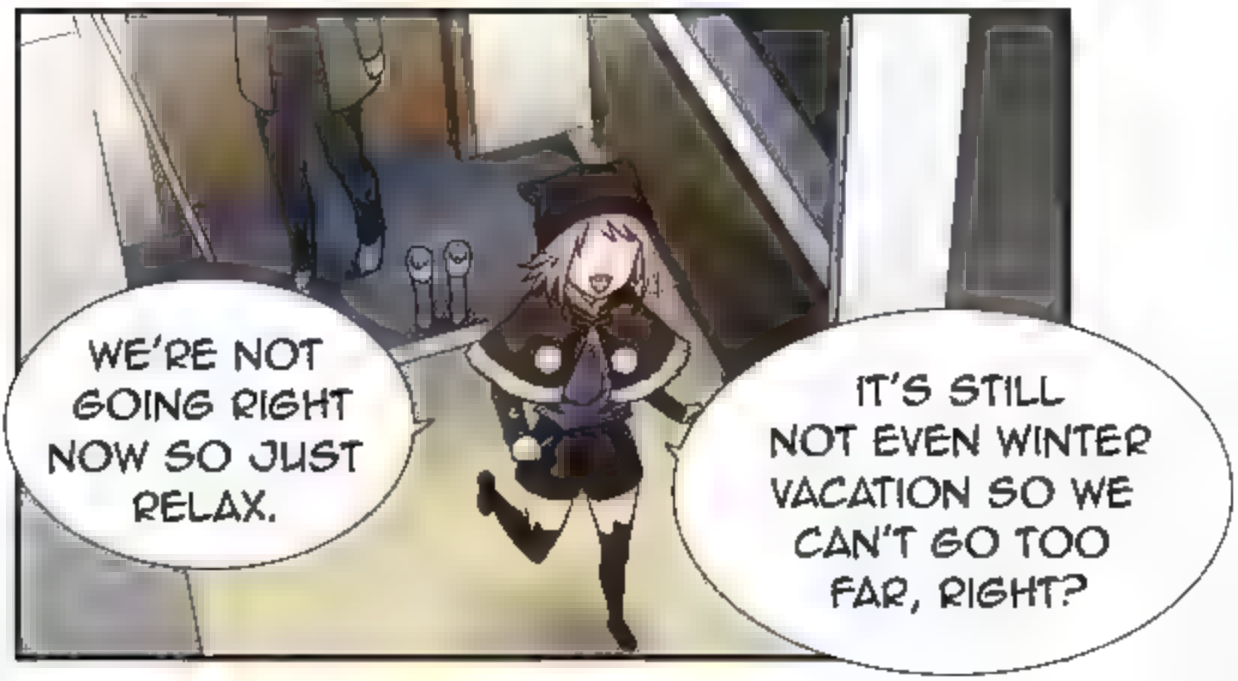
I TOLD YOU, I'M IN KOREA BECAUSE I HAVE SOMETHING TO DO.

CRASH

I'M GOING TO NEED YOUR HELP.

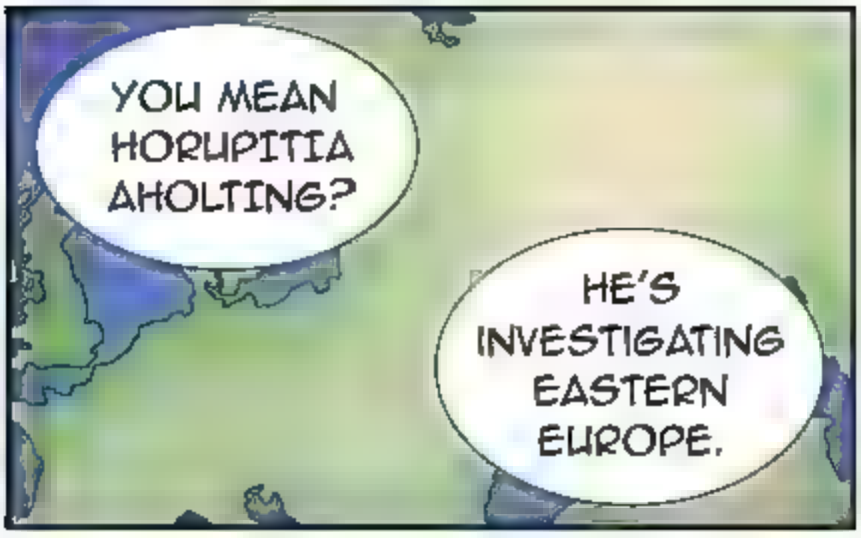
CLANK
UH... BUT I CAN'T JUST LEAVE ALL OF A SUDDEN TO HELP YOU LIKE THIS..

AH. I'VE ALREADY RECEIVED PERMISSION FROM THE CHEON BU GUILD SO DON'T WORRY.
WHEN!? AND WITHOUT MY PERMISSION!?


WE'RE NOT GOING RIGHT NOW SO JUST RELAX.
IT'S STILL NOT EVEN WINTER VACATION SO WE CAN'T GO TOO FAR, RIGHT?

AH, YEAH.
THAT'S RIGHT.

BUT WHAT KIND OF WORK IS IT?
HMM... I HAVE TO INVESTIGATE SOMETHING.
I NEED YOUR HELP AS AN ASSISTANT.
UH... WHAT ABOUT HIM?


YOU MEAN HORUPITIA AHOLTING?
HE'S INVESTIGATING EASTERN EUROPE.

WHAT ARE YOU INVESTIGATING?

TREES.
TREES?

A TREE INVESTIGATION?

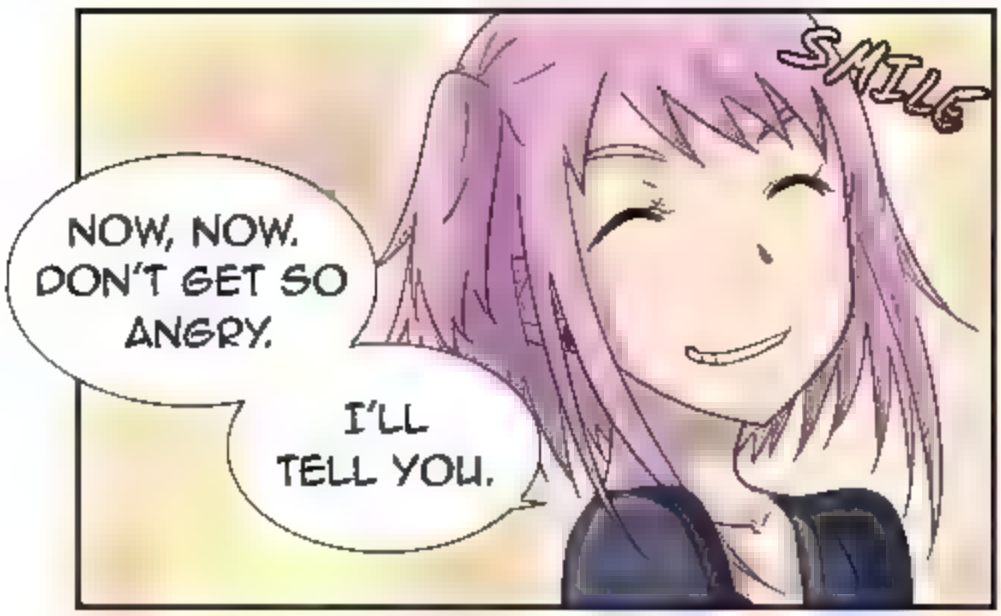
AH, COME TO THINK OF IT, HE IS A DRUID, ISN'T HE?

DRUIDS MAKE ME THINK OF MYSTERIOUS SPELLS AROUND TREES OR FORESTS.
LIKE SUMMONING SPIRITS AND USING THE POWER OF NATURE.
HE ACTUALLY CREATED A MASSIVE TREE IN A FOREST, TOO.

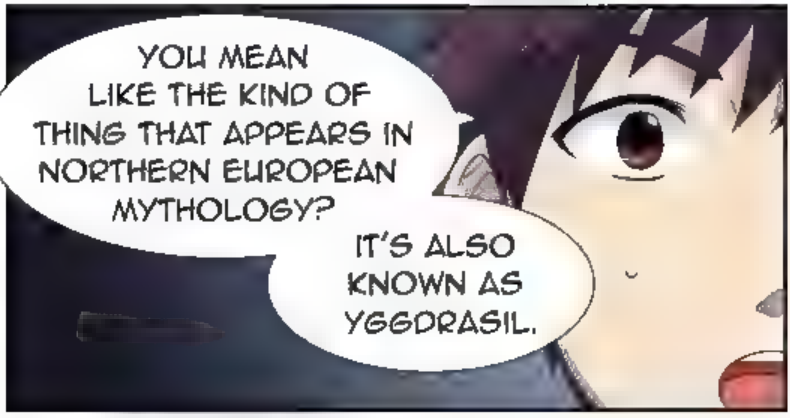
OF COURSE IT'S NOT JUST A REGULAR TREE.
THEN WHAT IS IT?

A SPECIAL TREE.

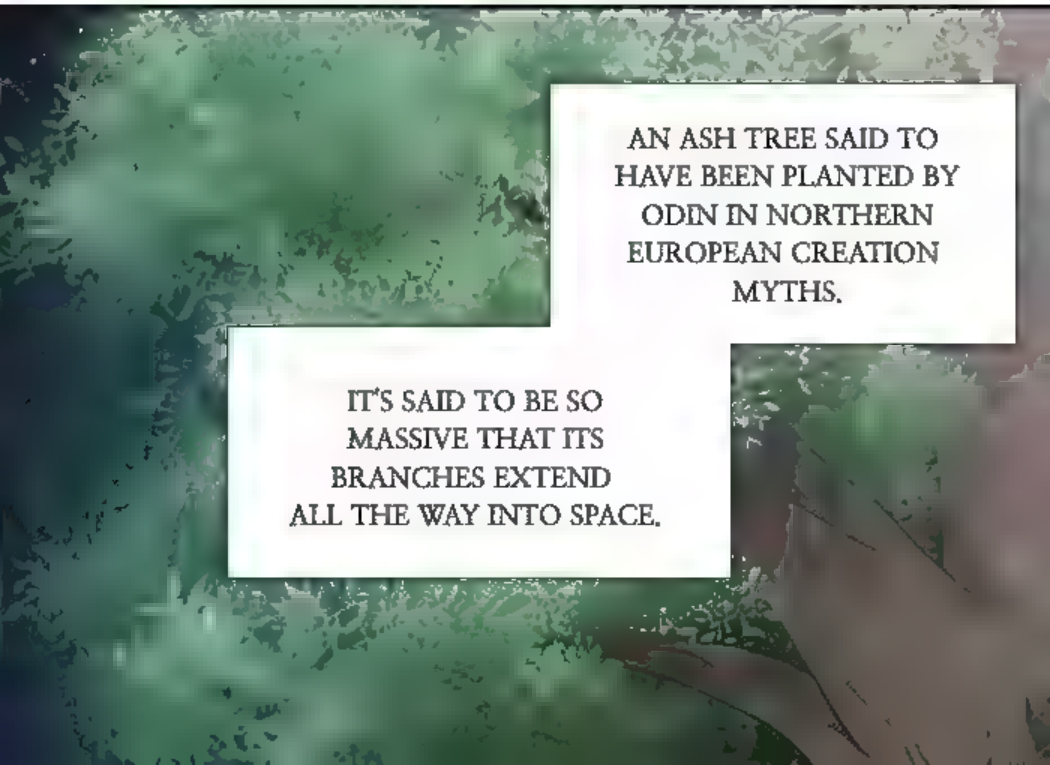
HEY MASTER, YOU'RE MESSING WITH ME, AREN'T YOU?
YOU JUST REALIZED, HUH? ANYWAY...
AH, COME ON!


SMILE
NOW, NOW. DON'T GET SO ANGRY.
I'LL TELL YOU.

THE TREE THAT I'M LOOKING FOR IS THE WORLD TREE.
THE WORLD TREE?

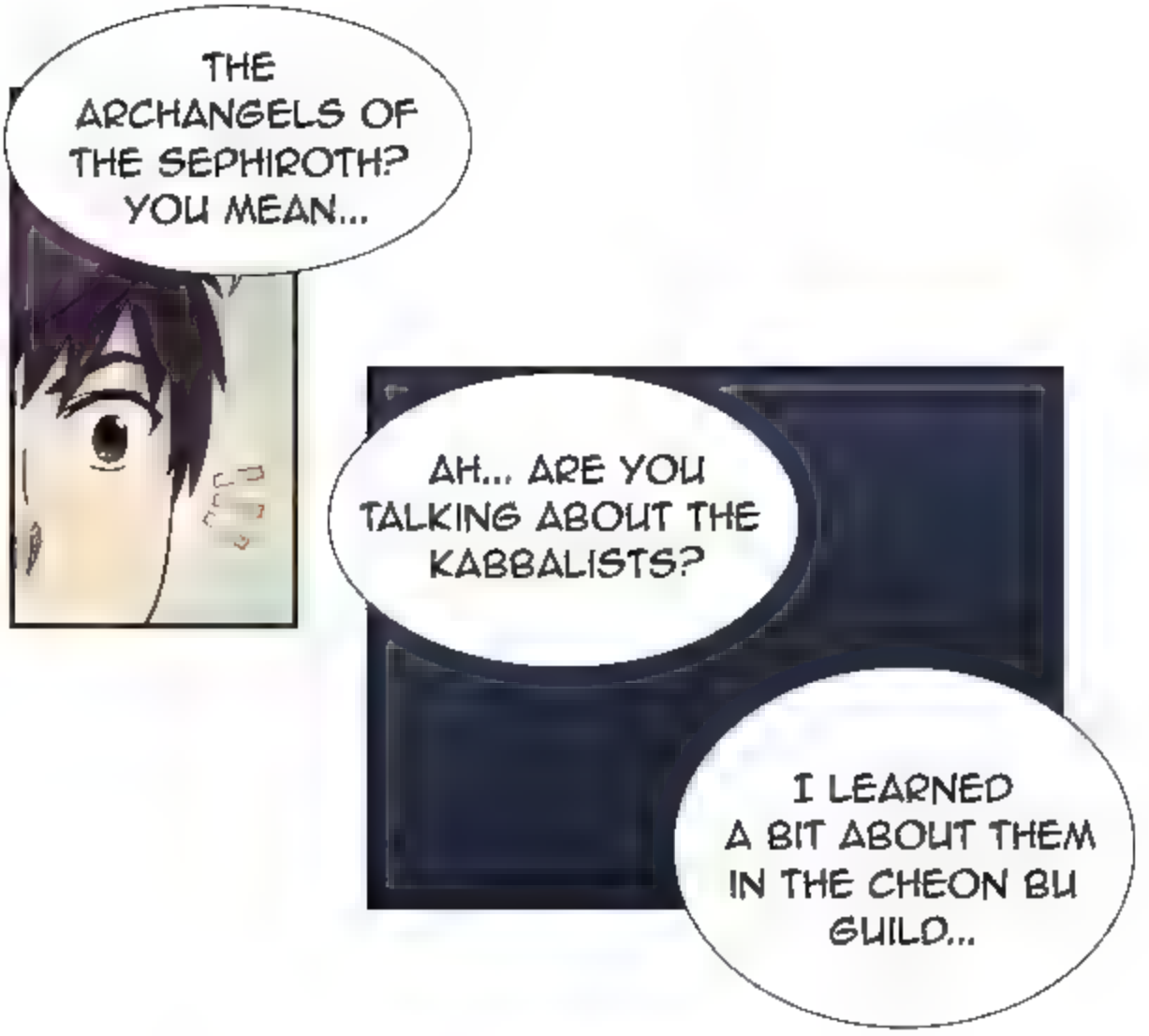

YOU MEAN LIKE THE KIND OF THING THAT APPEARS IN NORTHERN EUROPEAN MYTHOLOGY?
IT'S ALSO KNOWN AS YGGDRASIL.

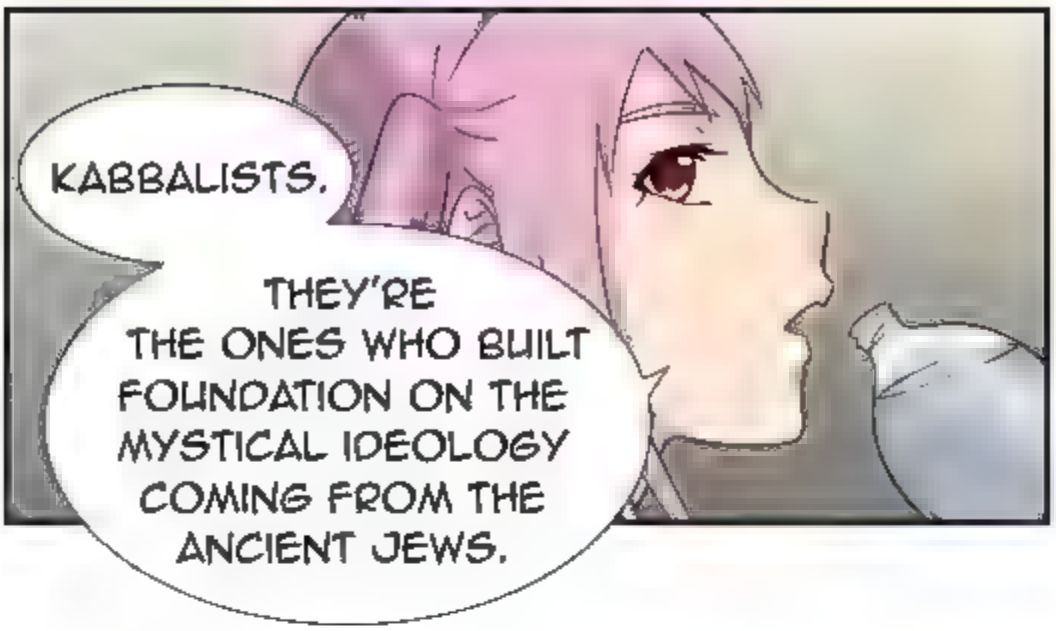
YGGDRASIL.
THE WORLD TREE.


AN ASH TREE SAID TO HAVE BEEN PLANTED BY ODIN IN NORTHERN EUROPEAN CREATION MYTHS.
IT'S SAID TO BE SO MASSIVE THAT ITS BRANCHES EXTEND ALL THE WAY INTO SPACE.

ITS ROOTS ARE SAID TO STRETCH TO NIFLHEIM, A KIND OF HELL IN NORTHERN EUROPEAN MYTHOLOGY,
AND THE BRANCHES GROW ALL THE WAY TO ASGARD, THE WORLD AND UNIVERSE OF THE GODS.
ASIDE FROM BEING ENORMOUS, IT IS ALSO SAID TO POSSESS VARIOUS MYSTICAL POWERS.
ACCORDING TO MYTHS, MIRACULOUS THINGS HAPPEN IF YOU EAT OR DRINK ITS FRUIT, LEAVES OR SAP.

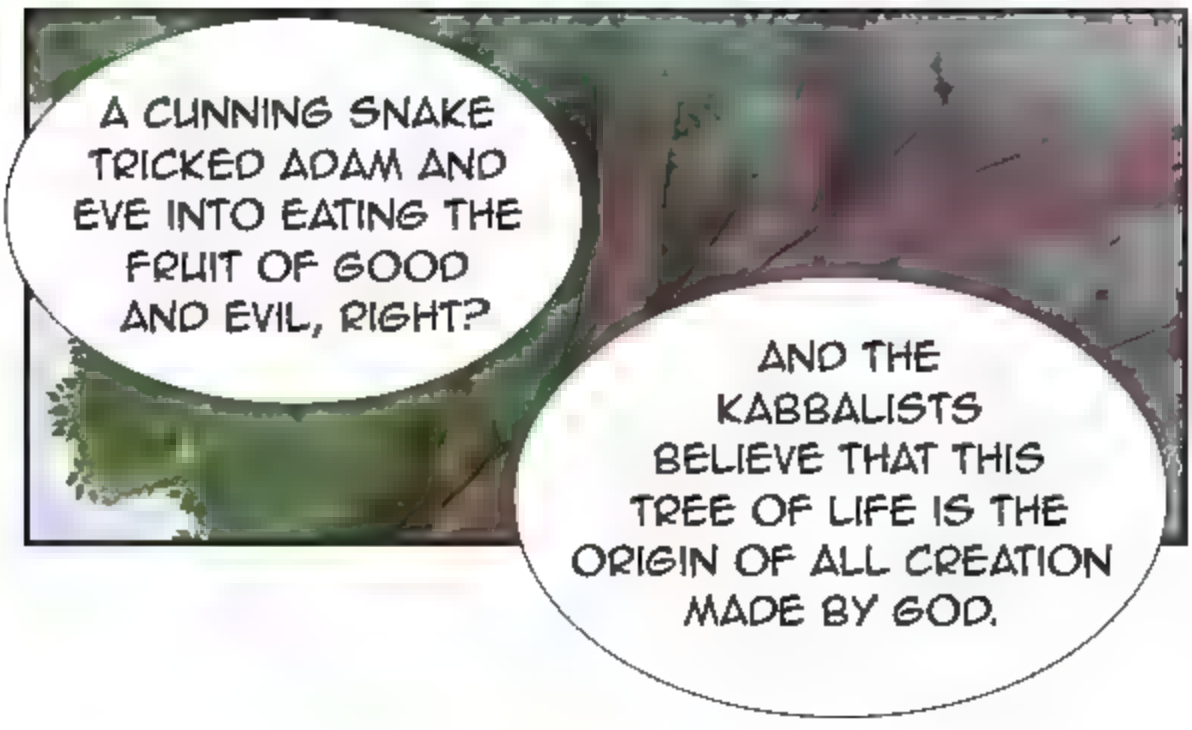
HMM~ THERE'S THAT,
SSK
PLUS THERE'S ALSO THE ARCHANGELS OF THE SEPHIROTH.

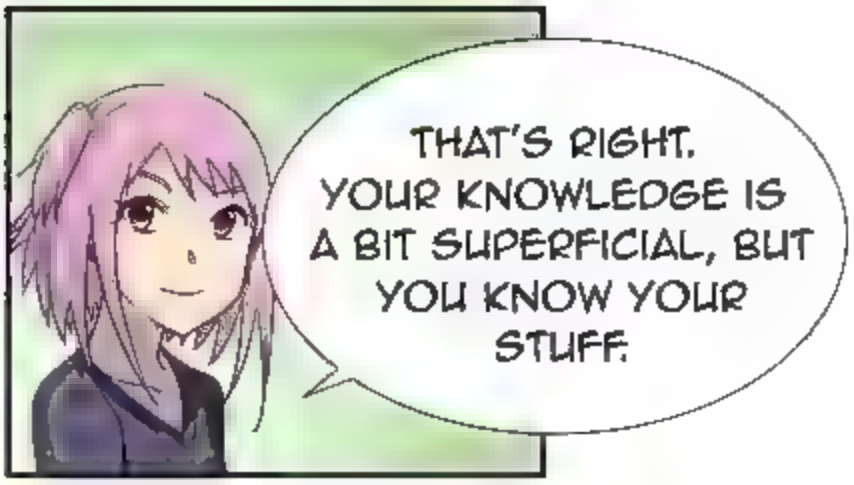

THE ARCHANGELS OF THE SEPHIROTH? YOU MEAN...
AH... ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT THE KABBALISTS?
I LEARNED A BIT ABOUT THEM IN THE CHEON BU GUILD...

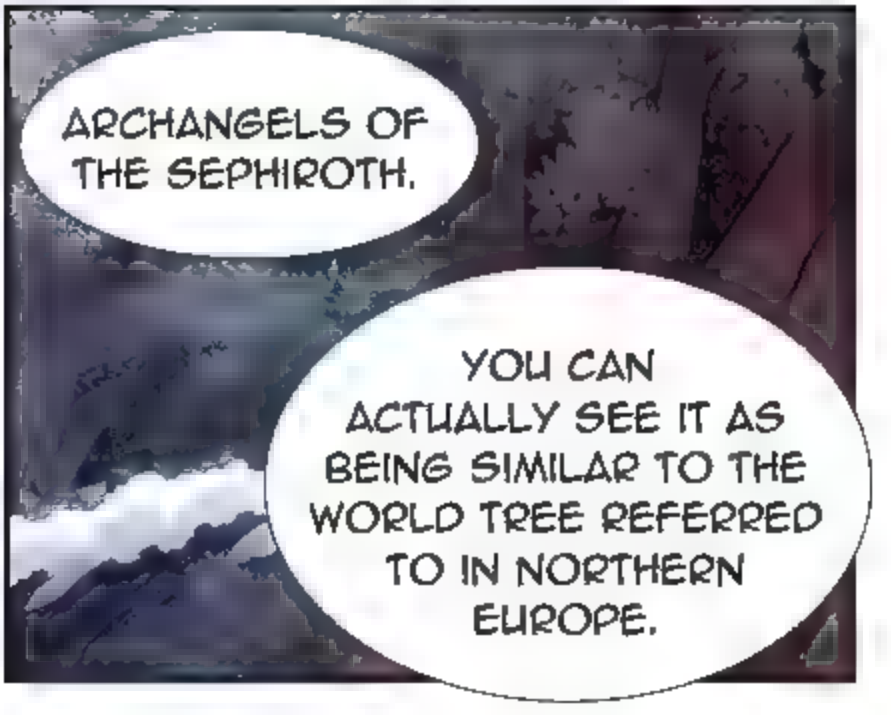

KABBALISTS.
THEY'RE THE ONES WHO BUILT FOUNDATION ON THE MYSTICAL IDEOLOGY COMING FROM THE ANCIENT JEWS.

ARCHANGELS OF THE SEPHIROTH IS THE TREE OF LIFE SAID TO BE IN THE GARDEN OF EDEN IN HEAVEN.
IT'S DIFFERENT FROM THE TREE OF THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOOD AND EVIL THAT PRODUCES THE FRUIT THAT ADAM AND EVE ARE SAID TO HAVE EATEN.

YEAH.
I LEARNED
THAT TOO.
THERE ARE TWO
TREES IN THE GARDEN
OF EDEN. THEY CALL
THEM THE TREE OF LIFE
AND THE TREE OF
KNOWLEDGE.
THE TREE
OF KNOWLEDGE
PRODUCES THE FRUIT
OF GOOD AND EVIL.

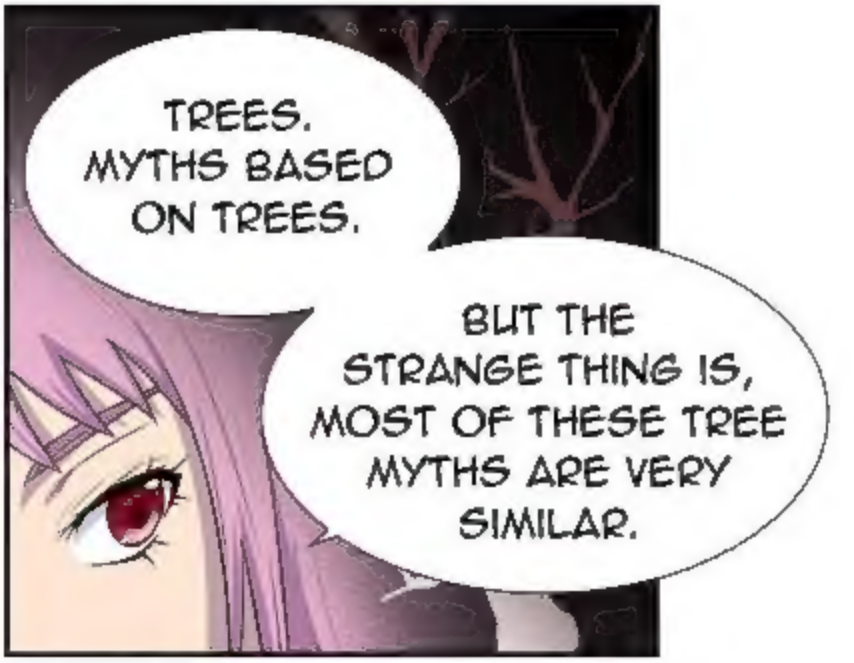

A CUNNING SNAKE
TRICKED ADAM AND
EVE INTO EATING THE
FRUIT OF GOOD
AND EVIL, RIGHT?
AND THE
KABBALISTS
BELIEVE THAT THIS
TREE OF LIFE IS THE
ORIGIN OF ALL CREATION
MADE BY GOD.

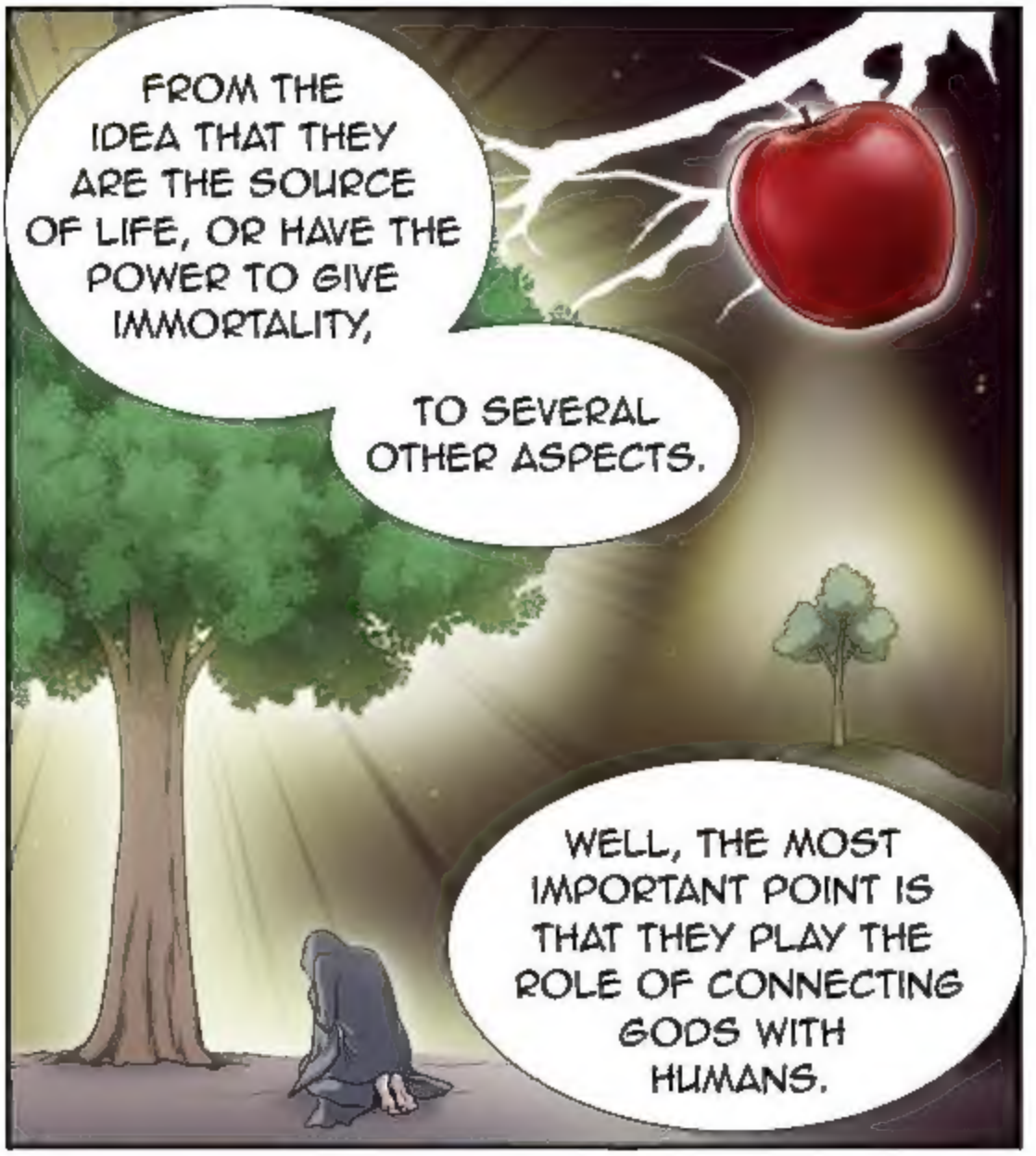

THAT'S RIGHT.
YOUR KNOWLEDGE IS
A BIT SUPERFICIAL, BUT
YOU KNOW YOUR
STUFF.

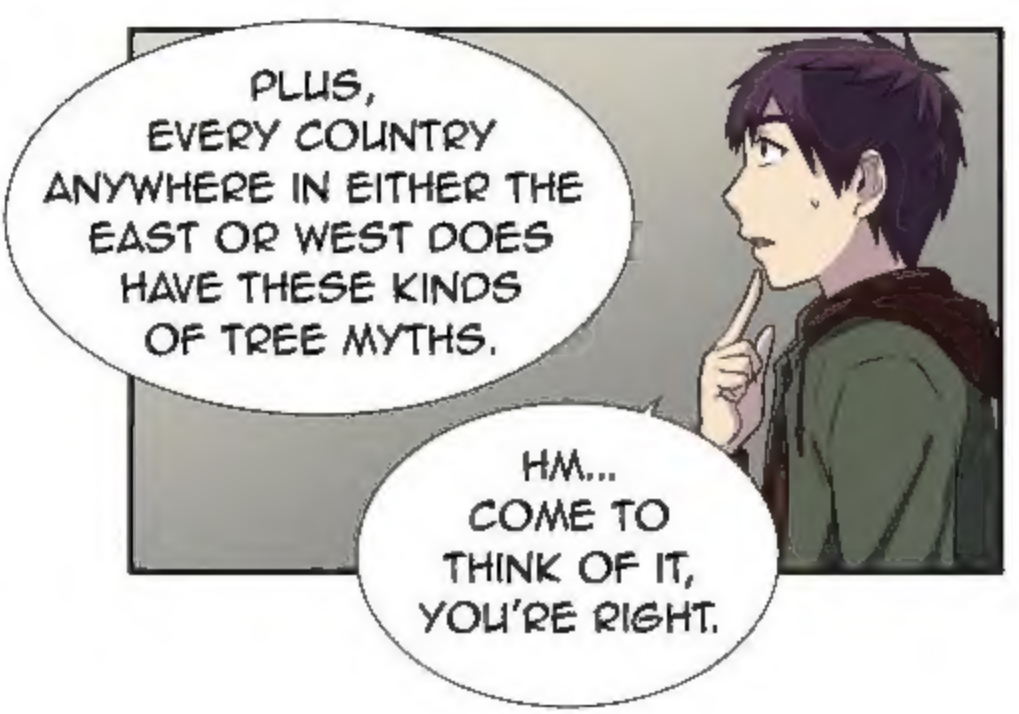

ARCHANGELS OF THE SEPHIROTH.
YOU CAN ACTUALLY SEE IT AS BEING SIMILAR TO THE WORLD TREE REFERRED TO IN NORTHERN EUROPE.

NOW, HERE'S A QUESTION.

HOW MANY MYTHS DO YOU THINK THERE ARE ABOUT THESE KINDS OF TREES?
WHAT?


TREES. MYTHS BASED ON TREES.
BUT THE STRANGE THING IS, MOST OF THESE TREE MYTHS ARE VERY SIMILAR.


FROM THE IDEA THAT THEY ARE THE SOURCE OF LIFE, OR HAVE THE POWER TO GIVE IMMORTALITY,
TO SEVERAL OTHER ASPECTS.
WELL, THE MOST IMPORTANT POINT IS THAT THEY PLAY THE ROLE OF CONNECTING GODS WITH HUMANS.


PLUS, EVERY COUNTRY ANYWHERE IN EITHER THE EAST OR WEST DOES HAVE THESE KINDS OF TREE MYTHS.
HM... COME TO THINK OF IT, YOU'RE RIGHT.

THERE ARE EVEN SOME HERE IN KOREA, TOO.
WHAT?

LINE Webtoon